

MAG Human Services
Coordinating and Technical Committees
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2005

COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS
ATTENDING

*Councilmember Rob Antoniak, City of Goodyear
Councilmember Joe Johnson, City of Surprise
*Councilmember Kyle Jones, City of Mesa
Councilmember Doug Lingner, City of Phoenix, Chairman
Councilmember Marie Lopez-Rogers, City of Avondale
Councilmember Manuel Martinez, City of Glendale
*Jim McCabe, Area Agency on Aging
Carol McCormack, Mesa United Way
*Vice Mayor Larry Morrison, Town of Gilbert
* Councilmember Kathleen Nicola, Town of Fountain Hills
Councilmember Wayne Ecton for Kevin Osterman, City of Scottsdale
*Janet Regner, Representative for Tempe Community Council
Vice Mayor Phillip Westbrooks, City of Chandler
*Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, Maricopa County, Vice-Chair

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS
ATTENDING

Lorenzo Aguirre, El Mirage
Nichole Ayoola, City of Mesa
Judy Bowden, Mesa United Way
Moises Gallegos, City of Phoenix
Paige Garrett, Glendale Human Services
*Kate Hanley, Tempe Community Council
Carl Harris-Morgan, Town of Gilbert
Connie James, City of Scottsdale

Jim Knaut for Mary Lynn Kasunic, Area Agency on Aging
Barbara Knox, DES/RSA
Margarita Leyvas, Maricopa County HSD
*John Paul Lopez, City of Tolleson
*Joyce Lopez-Powell, VSUW
Dan Lundberg, City of Surprise
Doris Marshall, City of Phoenix
*Kyle Moore, DES/ACYF
Susan Neidlinger, DES/DDD
Sandra Reagan, Southwest Community Network
Sylvia Sheffield, City of Avondale
Linda Snidecor, City of Goodyear
*Judy Tapscott, City of Tempe
Wayne Tormala, City of Phoenix, Vice Chair
*Margaret Trujillo, Value Options
Patrick Tyrrell, City of Chandler, Chairman
Neal Young, City of Phoenix

OTHERS PRESENT

Gwyneth Cowger, AFD
Joan Ellis, DES/RSA
Charlene Flaherty, DES
DeDe Gaisthea, MAG
Teresa Franquiz, MAG
Sintra Hoffman, City of Phoenix
Jose Mercado, City of Phoenix
Steph Prybyl, City of Avondale
Michael Schrock, City of Surprise
Amy St. Peter, MAG
Sharon Wood, City of Phoenix
Tarina Wood, NMPCT
Jeff Young, DES/CSA

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.
+Those members present by audio/videoconferencing.

1. Call to Order

HSCC Chairman Lingner called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Chairman Lingner proceeded to introduce Teresa Franquiz MAG Human Services Planner, who will provide staff assistance for this meeting and Amy St. Peter, the new MAG Human Service Manager, replacing Debbra Determan. Introductions of members and guests ensued.

2. Call to the Audience

No comments were made at this time.

3. Approval of October 14, 2004 Human Services Coordinating Committee Minutes

A quorum was not available for approval of minutes.

Approval of the October 21, 2004 Human Services Technical Committee Minutes

HSTC Chairman Tyrrell called for a motion to approve the October 21, 2004 meeting minutes. Connie James, City of Scottsdale, moved to approve, Sandra Reagan, Southwest Community Network (SCN) seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

4. Items for HSCC Consent

Group Health-HSCC Chairman Lingner called to approve the mailing of a letter to go to all city/town managers and mayors in support of the Health Care Group of Arizona. He reminded the committee of a previous presentation by Lori Aleo from the Health Care Group of AZ at the October 2004 meeting and discussion to write a letter of support.

Carol McCormack, Mesa United Way, stated a concern about the law stating that in order to be eligible, a new member must have been without health care coverage for the previous six-month period, deeming many in need of coverage as ineligible. She asked that the letter of support allude to the difficulty this law presents in Health Care Group of Arizona providing adequate coverage. Teresa Franquiz said this could be mentioned in the letter.

The Committee consented to approve the letter of support for Health Care Group of Arizona.

Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) at League of Arizona Cities and Towns Conference- Chairman Lingner called to approve a recommendation to mail a letter to the League of Arizona Cities and Towns in support of including the EITC on the agenda for their annual conference.

The Committee consented to approve the letter of support for EITC to be included on the agenda for the 2005 annual League of Arizona Cities and Towns Conference.

5. Social Services Block Grant (SSBG)

HSCC Chairman Lingner announced that John Hoag from Department of Economic Security (DES) could not be here today to provide an update on the status of SSBG but that Teresa Franquiz, MAG, has provided a one-page information sheet that provides a brief update on the current status of the program.

DES Managers' Reports

- Barbara Knox, District 1 Program Manager, stated that in the previous fiscal year, SSBG funds for the Rehabilitation Services Administration were used for various vendors. \$8,108 was allocated for services and \$11,483 was spent to support inventory employment.
- Joan Ellis, Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), stated that \$4,642 went to rehabilitation instruction services ABLE. ABLE is a service for blind children 0-18 years old, in which funding goes for teachers to work with children in their home to learn independent living skills at an early age. She stated how important these skills are as they enter into the adult world. Adaptive technologies are available to help people function independently.
- Susan Neidlinger, DES-DDD, Quality Assurance Program Coordinator referred to SSBG-DDD 2006 recommendations requesting approval of the language additions and deletions in Service Intents for Extended Supported Employment Services. In FY 2004 budget report, all SSBG-DDD locally planned funding was used. As of 12-31-04, DDD serves 24, 624 people statewide. Of these, 14, 223 are children under 18 years; 9,439 are adults; 962 are adults age 55+; 16,671 are enrolled in (ALTCS); 7953 are state funded only consumers. Growth in the Arizona Long Term Care System has increased at 9% annually for the past 10 years. The Division of Developmental Disabilities is a nationwide leader ranking 10th of 50 states, for consumers served in-home and in-community based services, per 100,000 in the state population. In FY 2005, of 24,624 statewide consumers, 14,000 reside and receive service in District I, Maricopa County. District I has current waiting lists in all service areas, including residential and receives 150-200 new people monthly.

In Early Intervention infant-toddler programs for birth to three year olds, an area which continues to grow rapidly, new educational and training requirements are required. Early Intervention support coordinators have college degrees. The support coordinators, DDD providers, Occupational and Physical Therapists and Speech Pathologists who work with the infants and toddlers require (200) extra hours of Early Intervention Developmental Specialist's Instruction and Training.

There is a large increase of Spanish speaking staff and providers hired in

Maricopa County. Spanish speaking parents formed THE GALA GROUP, the first Arizona Hispanic Services Co-op to provide member directed services to DDD consumers. District I lacks adequate provider funds in Extended Employment Related Services, when consumers loose jobs or supported employment sites close. If \$300 per individual were available for job re-placement in non-progressive moves, consumers could continue employment, earn wages and not return to a center based setting. District I formed a new centralized Quality Assurance Unit utilizing (25) current staff members and created a Statewide Police Department Liaison, to have oversight, responsibility and to ensure health, safety and other issues of people who have developmental disabilities.

Carl Harris-Morgan, Town of Gilbert, asked for clarification of deletions to language in the service intents. Ms. Neidlinger said that the deletions were for language included in past recommendations, which are not relevant to the service areas now.

Carol McCormack asked about the population increase in the 0-3 age group. Ms. Neidlinger explained that early and better diagnoses of developmental disabilities now occurs, including diagnoses of infants and toddlers who may be developmentally at risk. In cases of multiple births, the likelihood of premature births and hospitalization of infants in ICU neo-natal units increases also. There has been a ten-fold increase in the diagnoses of autism disorders in children. All of these factors contribute to the population growth in this age group. A similar growth has been seen because of medical advances in treatment and in DD services to older adults aged 55 plus, who have developmental disabilities.

- Charlene Flaherty, Community Services Administration (CSA), stated that CSA is focusing on service integration in the areas of hunger, homelessness, refugees, Community Action Programs (CAP), and domestic violence. She said that Nina Sutton is the financial person within CSA who keeps track of the details on how much each particular service area receives from SSBG. She noted that there is also a refugee settlement program within CSA that is funded with additional federal money. CSA receives \$3.1 million total from SSBG. Hunger programs received \$284,401 of SSBG in FY05, homelessness received \$646,727, domestic violence received \$658,999, and the Community Action Programs (CAP) received \$1.5 million. She said there has been an increase in demand for services, especially in the area of domestic violence. Shelters are running full and over. There has also been an increase in the need for services for the elderly. She said those with special needs are struggling to access services. She added that David Berns, Director of the Department of Economic Security (DES) has initiated Service Integration Initiatives, which consists of multi-disciplinary teams that are capable of dealing with multiple issues at one time. She said there would be ten teams working across the state. There are now two teams in Glenrosa and Tucson. The concept is based on the “no wrong door” policy. She also stated how important it is to partner with neighborhoods in order to get at the root of poverty issues.

SSBG Ad Hoc Work Group

HSTC Chairman Tyrrell gave an update on SSBD Ad Hoc Work Group and referred the committee to the handout. He said that he and Chairman Lingner intended to give the HSTC as much time for discussion and deliberation as they needed before asking for a motion.

The first recommendation was that the same services be recommended for funding as last year, as the funding levels are expected to stay the same.

The second recommendation was to request that DES appoint one member of the MAG Human Services Committee to sit on their SSBG allocation panel and their annual taxonomy review committee.

The third recommendation was to recognize movement of approximately \$56,000 from the Department of Adults, Children, Youth & Families (ACYF) to the Community Services Administration. Teresa Franquiz stated that in previous years, the \$56,000 was shown as ACYF funds, but has actually been administered by CSA. Therefore, the change is to the SSBG Plan only. Jim Knaut, Area Agency on Aging, stated that the \$56,000 was a footnote to a larger discussion if there were other projects out there, or if there is additional money we are supposed to maintain that we are not aware of.

The fourth recommendation was to change the extended employment related services language of the SSBG recommendations in the Persons with Developmental Disabilities target group to reflect correct language of the State statutes, to correct language according to the service taxonomies, and to correct intent of fund usage.

The fifth recommendation was to include an increase of 1.8% that would go to MAG for administration. The total additional dollar amount would be \$73,400. HSTC Chair Tyrrell thanked the Ad Hoc Work Group and the Committee for their time and opened the floor for discussion.

Moises Gallegos, City of Phoenix, asked how much MAG received for administration purposes as compared to the other Council of Governments (COGs) in the state. Teresa Franquiz, MAG, commented that statewide, the average amount received for administration is 6.4% of the total local allocation and the highest was 9.7%. She stated that MAG is currently at 4.3% and with the increase, it would bring the percentage up to 6.1%, just below the state average. Ms. Franquiz also checked with MAG's fiscal services and found out that the administrative allocation had not been increased since 1993.

Judy Bowden, Mesa United Way, said that she is concerned about simply recommending the same services for funding again, without reassessing the needs. HSTC Chairman Tyrrell replied that the ad hoc work group agreed that this is a concern, but also that the need far outstrips the available funding in every area. Ms.

McCormack also asked why funds for persons with developmental disabilities had been cut the previous year. Ms. Neidlinger responded that a few years ago, members may have misconstrued or misunderstood, when DDD gave \$300,000+ in Title XX State planned funds to RSA, to provide services for the developmentally disabled, as meaning that the DD target group did not have a continued need for all of their locally planned SSBG funding. They may have misunderstood early intervention services for infants and toddlers, in the basic areas of occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech therapy, socialization and recreation programs, as being prevention service programs, instead of these areas being early intervention services for the diagnosed developmental disabilities of infants and toddlers, from birth to age three years. She also stated DDD had never received any TANF funds. However, DDD had to take their Title XX locally planned service funds from the DD target group and give them to other target groups, to equalize and replace the other groups' loss of TANF funds with Title XX funds. Sandy Reagan, SCN, said that when SSBG was significantly reduced a few years ago, they attempted to come up with a formula that would cut each service area equally. This was to make up for the TANF funds that were no longer available. She said at that time, the group decided to concentrate on the area of basic needs and prevention services were cut entirely.

Neal Young, City of Phoenix, asked if other COGs around the state also receive funds from their local municipalities for assessments. He pointed out that the City of Phoenix currently contributes \$50,000 to MAG for homeless planning. Amy St. Peter, MAG, said that we could look into this.

Mr. Gallegos asked what the intent was for the increase. Ms. St. Peter stated that it was to maintain the current level of staffing.

Councilmember Manuel Martinez, City of Glendale, asked if each of the programs that received SSBG funds in the last year had spent all of their funds. Mr. Knaut said that there is no way to be sure and that is one reason why the ad hoc group recommended the request to include someone from the MAG Human Services Committees to sit on their annual allocation panel. Ms. Neidlinger reported that DDD had used all SSBG funds for fiscal year 2004.

HSTC Chairman Tyrell called for a motion to approve the recommendations. Paige Garrett, Glendale Human Services Council, moved to approve all of the recommendations.

Ms. Neidlinger noted that last year, there had been a typographical error in the SSBG-DDD recommendations' final funding total, which was sent to DES from MAG. The error has been corrected.

Carl Harris-Morgan, Town of Gilbert, seconded the motion to approve all the recommendations. The motion was approved unanimously by the HSTC.

HSCC Chairman Linger asked for comments on the recommendations from members of the HSCC. He agreed that someone from the HSTC should be included on the SSBG allocation panel and that twelve years without an increase in administration funds was a very long time. He recommended that there be an annual review of the amount set aside for administration and that small adjustments be made when needed, in order to avoid having to ask for a somewhat larger increase at a later time. He said that this would also make it easier for MAG to plan their budgets.

HSCC Chairman Lingner called on HSCC to move for consensus on the recommendation. He asked each member and consent was unanimous. He explained that Teresa Franquiz would contact the other members and ask for their vote. Assuming the other members approved, the recommendation would then proceed to the MAG Management Committee the second week of February. The recommendations would then be forwarded to DES with final approval by the MAG Regional Council on February 23rd.

Chairman Lingner also commented that he was very moved by Ms. Neidlinger's discussion of the increase in the numbers of individuals with developmental disabilities. He suggested that it would be beneficial for both groups to learn more about advances in science, specifically in the field of genomics and bio-medicines, in order to understand the effect that these advances are having upon clients. Ms. Neidlinger agreed that this would be beneficial. She recommended contacting physicians at the Phoenix Children's Hospital ICU Neo-Natal Unit, ASU, Dr. Raun Melmed at SW Autism Research Center, and the Mayo Clinic for possible speakers, who are doing national and worldwide work and research in these areas related to developmental disabilities. Chairman Lingner suggested that MAG staff put this on the agenda for the next joint meeting in April.

6. Ad Hoc Youth Subcommittee: Discussion for Integration with HSCC Activities

HSCC Chairman Lingner introduced Marie Lopez Rogers, Councilmember from Avondale, to provide an update on the Ad Hoc Youth Subcommittee and where they stand on making recommendations for a mission and possible strategy for implementation.

Councilmember Lopez Rogers stated that some mayors had asked the Human Services Coordinating Committee to look at youth issues regionally. She noted that she also sits on the State Youth Commission. She said that the ad hoc group is now at the point of sending some recommendations to the HSTC at their next meeting. The purpose would be to see if the original mission utilized by the Youth Policy Advisory Committee a few years ago would still be valid.

Ms. Reagan added that they have not had a chance to really dig into the issue as they have been busy working on the SSBG recommendations, but that they did consider recommending that the group follow the lead of some of the cities that have youth commissions. She pointed out that the youth commission in Avondale does have clout

with city officials. Councilmember Lopez Rogers asked that this topic be brought to the strategic planning meeting in April.

Chairman Lingner opened the floor for discussion. He requested that the Committees consider looking at issues and projects that kids identify with and to make an attempt to tie them into the budget processes at the cities. Councilmember Lopez Rogers agreed that the more inclusive they can be, the better. Chairman Lingner suggested getting some youth representatives on the MAG Human Services Committees, though it is hard to find a time when they are available and not in school.

Councilmember Martinez said that in Glendale there is a Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. There are two youth representatives on the library and parks boards and they have full voting rights. Mr. Tyrrell said that this is the case in Chandler, too. He suggested bringing in some existing youth representatives to the HSTC and HSCC meetings.

Councilmember Ecton, City of Scottsdale, said that he thought it was a good idea to get youth involved. In Scottsdale next week, their Mayor's Youth Council will have a summit and provide feedback on the city's budget. He noted that the services provided today may not be what are needed tomorrow.

7. Arizona Rides

HSCC Chairman Lingner reminded HSCC of presentation they heard on the Arizona Rides Initiative from Eileen Colleran from Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) in October and HSTC heard in September. Ms. Franquiz said that the purpose of including this topic on the agenda was to have the members begin thinking of how the HSTC might be well positioned to provide technical assistance to the Arizona Rides effort. She reminded the committee that part of the project was to better coordinate all of the human services transportation across the state. Ms. McCormack suggested that the MAG Transportation Committee could work with the HSTC on this issue. HSTC Chairman Tyrrell stated that the Technical Committee has not discussed this topic thoroughly and recommended this topic to be held over to the next joint meeting, Chairman Lingner agreed.

8. State Aging 2020 Plan/ HSTC Aging Services Work Group Update

HSCC Chairman Lingner reminded the Committees of the State Aging 2020 Plan community input forum held at MAG on December 6, 2004. He asked for comments on the forum from any members of the Committees who were able to attend. Hearing none, he asked the HSTC for an update on their Aging Services Work Group.

Jim Knaut, Area Agency on Aging, said that the work group met for the first time on January 12, 2005 and had a good discussion around what kinds of senior services are currently on offer at various municipalities, as well as where some of the gaps in services might exist. He said that with the State focused on the Aging 2020 Plan, the

work group agreed that this might be a good time to look at the issue on a regional basis.

Chairman Lingner commented that as people are living longer, there are often multiple generations in one household, and that cases of grandparents raising their grandchildren is growing.

Ms. Garrett suggested looking at a study of the Amish population and how they care for their elderly. She said that their traditions are actually quite innovative by conventional standards.

Chairman Lingner asked that the HSTC Aging Services Work Group do more research on how the issue might be approached regionally and what kind of projects might be done by the cities, and then bring those suggestions back to the HSCC.

9. Proposition 200

HSCC Chairman Lingner stated that Prop 200 became law the week before Christmas. He asked members of both Committees if they have any comments on how their municipalities have been working with Prop 200 and any reaction they have seen within their own communities. He commented that the Phoenix Law department stated that human services would be seeing an impact. Marge Leyvas, Maricopa County, said that the County subcontracts with thirteen CAP offices that have fully implemented Prop 200, although some are privately operated and therefore, are not as concerned about possible prosecution. She said that some are concerned that US citizens will not be able to access services because of the confusion over what is an acceptable form of documentation. She said that the rules are still changing, as DES has already issued two clarifications on proper documentation at a recent training session. Ms. Leyvas said that currently, clients must have a certified birth certificate to qualify for services and that this requirement is a difficult one when administering crisis services. She said they are working to get the word out about acceptable documentation.

HSTC Chairman Tyrrell commented that Chandler has the same concerns about citizens accessing services and being able to prove citizenship. Others on the Committees expressed the same concern.

Mr. Gallegos said that so far, the restriction has been limited to the utility repair and replacement programs, like Neighbors Helping Neighbors. He said that audits have already begun in this program area. He noted that there was a recent article published calling for Prop 200 to be expanded.

Ms. Leyvas said that the audits are being conducted by the DES Auditing Department.

Doris Marshall, City of Phoenix, said that she was pleased that Prop 200 does not seem to be affecting seniors as much as she had feared. Ms. Leyvas pointed out that approximately 78% of the clients that access the utility repair/replacement services are elderly.

Wayne Tormala, City of Phoenix, stated the effect it is having on Latinos is chilling. He commented that many are confused about what services they can still receive and which they cannot. He said, for example, they still qualify for child tax credits from the IRS, because federal law trumps state law.

Chairman Lingner said that the Phoenix City Council took action to indemnify all City of Phoenix employees. He said that it would be important to make sure to continue to provide services, while protecting the providers.

10. Announcements

Mr. Gallegos announced that Marge Leyvas is no longer the Interim Assistant Director of Community Services Administration at the County. She is now the permanent Assistant Director.

Teresa Franquiz announced that Vice Mayor Bilsten will be issuing a challenge to all the mayors at the next MAG Regional Council meeting, challenging them to form city teams and participate in the 2005 Walk to End Domestic Violence to be held Saturday, April 23, 2004 at the Welsey Bolin Plaza in downtown Phoenix.

Councilmember Lopez Rogers, Avondale, asked that in the future that acronyms be spelled out in Committee agendas. She also asked if MAG staff could mention the Fact Focus Future Regional Breakfast next week. Ms. St. Peter commented that this was a MAG sponsored event to present the regional report to be held next Tuesday, January 25 at the Arizona Club from 8:00 am – 10:30 am.

11. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm. The next joint meeting of the Human Services Coordinating and Technical Committee is the Strategic Planning Meeting scheduled for April 14, 2005 from 11:30 – 3:00 p.m. at the South Mountain Educational Resource Center.